IN RE APPLICATION OF:

YOSHIO HIRAKI ET AL.

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1617

SERIAL NO.: 09/913,721

FILED: AUGUST 17, 2001

: EXAMINER: YU, G.

FOR: SKIN PREPARATIONS FOR EXTERNAL USE

AMENDMENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

This is responsive to the Official Action mailed June 18, 2002.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A skin preparation comprising a lamellar structure comprising one or more fatty acid monoglyceride(s) as a main component, and one or more of vitamin A and derivative(s) thereof.

2. (Amended) The skin preparation according to Claim 1, which comprises a lamellar structure prepared from an oil phase mixture containing said one or more fatty acid monoglyceride(s) and said one or more of vitamin A and derivative(s) thereof.

3./(Amended) The skin preparation according to Claim 1, wherein said one or more of vitamin A and derivative(s) thereof is contained within or covered with the lamellar structure composed mainly of said one or more fatty acid monoglyceride(s).